

REMARKS

The following is intended as a full and complete response to the Final Office Action dated May 27, 2009, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on August 27, 2009. The Examiner objected to claim 67 for containing informalities. The Examiner rejected claims 52-68 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Drenttel (U.S. 7,124,360) in view of Butler (U.S. 6,018,340). The objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 67 for containing informalities. Claim 67 is amended to recite the "computer-readable storage medium of claim 60." Based on this amendment, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to claim 67.

Rejections under §103(a)

Claim 52 is amended to recite the limitations of associating a first application window with a first window area, and associating a second application window with the first window area. Amended claim 52 further recites the limitations of displaying the first application window and the second application window within the first window area within the at least two computer displays. Support for these limitations can be found at, among other places, paragraph [0022] of the present application. The cited references fail to teach or suggest the claimed "first window area" that includes the first application window and the second application window, as claimed.

The Examiner relies on Drenttel for disclosing the claimed first window area. More particularly, the Examiner points to Figure 9b of Drenttel, which discloses a display screen that is divided into "sections." According to the Examiner, each section of the display screen corresponds to a different claimed "window area." However, each section of the display screen in Drenttel can only include one type of information/data and, therefore, cannot be configured to display the first application window and the second application window within the first window area, as expressly claimed. There is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Drenttel of including more than one type of information/data in any section of the screen display. As described in Drenttel, the disclosed technique contemplates that a developer use the "sections" to

more easily design a webpage or a user interface for a software application or an operating system (See Drenttel at Abstract). For example, each section may represent a frame of a webpage that includes text or graphics (See Drenttel at col. 7, lines 42-44). Drenttel simply does not contemplate including two application windows within a single window area, as claimed; rather, the reference contemplates a one-to-one mapping between information/data and the different sections of the screen display.

Butler discloses a technique for arranging windows that are displayed on one or more monitors, where a user can move and resize the windows to the desired location and size. However, there is no disclosure in Butler of user-defined boundaries or window areas, or equivalents thereof. The claimed window area is an intermediate construct that reflects a specific area on the computer display that can then be associated with the first and second application windows, as claimed. Such an intermediate construct does not exist in Butler, where a single window is directly placed on the monitor display. As Butler contains no disclosure of window areas, the reference cannot cure the deficiencies of Drenttel with respect to amended claim 52 set forth above.

As the foregoing illustrates, the combination of the cited references fails to teach or suggest each and every limitation of amended claim 52. Therefore, the cited references cannot render amended claim 52 obvious. For these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 52 is allowable over the cited references and requests allowance of the claim. Furthermore, independent claims 60 and 68 are amended to recite limitations similar to those of amended claim 52. Therefore, claims 60 and 68 are allowable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 52. The remaining claims depend from allowable claims 52, 60, and 68 and are therefore also allowable.

In addition, new claim 69 is added that recites the limitations of the two or more window areas including a second window area, where the first window area partially overlaps the second window area within the at least two computer displays. Support for these limitations can be found at, among other places, paragraph [0026] of the present application. The cited references fail to teach or suggest these limitations. As

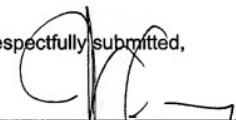
shown in Figures 1-11 of Drenttel, the reference does not contemplate overlapping the "sections" of the screen display. Butler fails to cure the deficiencies of Drenttel with respect to these limitations. Therefore, new claim 69 is in condition for allowance independent of its dependency on allowable independent claim 52.

In addition, new claim 70 is added that recites the limitations of at least one of the one or more user-defined boundaries not being a straight line. Support for these limitations can be found at, among other places, paragraph [0027] of the present application. Each of the cited references is completely silent regarding these additional limitations. Therefore, new claim 70 is in condition for allowance independent of its dependency on allowable independent claim 52.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above remarks, Applicants believe that they have overcome all of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action dated May 27, 2009, and that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, please contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,


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